Frequently Asked Questions

Is SAM the same thing as EPLS and CCR?
Yes, SAM consolidated various databases into one central database. The Excluded Parties List System (EPLS), known as SAM Exclusion Records, and Central Contractors Registration (CCR), known as SAM Entity Registration, is included within the centralized SAM database.

Do I Need To Use SAM?
In accordance with the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 4.1102, "prospective contractors shall be registered in SAM prior to the receipt of an award of a contract or agreement." Exceptions to this requirements can be found in the FAR 4.1102 §(a)(1)-(7).

The FAR states the following about exclusions: "contractors debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment are excluded from receiving contracts, and agencies shall not solicit offers from, award contracts to, or consent to subcontracts with these contractors, unless the agency head determines that there is a compelling reason for such action." See FAR 9.405§(a).

What is the difference between SAM Exclusion Records and SAM Entity Registration?
SAM Exclusion Records contains the data for all active exclusion records entered by the federal government identifying those parties excluded from receiving federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and federal financial and non-financial assistance and benefits.

SAM Entity Registration contains entity registration data publicly available under the Freedom of Information Act for those entities registered in SAM to do business with the federal government.

Do I need to check both SAM Exclusion Records and SAM Entity Registration?
DNP recommends agencies access both data sources. Entities may have self-registered in SAM Entity Registration but may also have an active exclusion in SAM Exclusion Records that could prevent payment or federal assistance eligibility.

How will SAM appear in DNP?
For legal and privacy reasons, DNP offers SAM to federal agencies as separate data sources, SAM Exclusion Records and SAM Entity Registration. See the back page for available data elements which will be returned within the DNP portal upon a search.

How frequently is SAM updated within DNP?
SAM is refreshed daily within DNP ensuring up-to-date results.

Why do some matches appear different through SAM and DNP?
DNP receives data directly from SAM but only returns limited data fields through the DNP application. See the back page for a list of the data elements.

How do I investigate an excluded match?
Contact the excluding agency identified in the match result for further exclusion details. Payment or federal award eligibility may be determined by comparing the exclusion details to your internal business requirements. See the back page for a link to the SAM Agency Exclusion Contacts.

Does DNP show if an entity has federal debt in SAM?
No, however DNP offers access to TOP Debt Check which provides federal debt data. Request access to TOP Debt Check in addition to SAM.

How do I reduce false positives?
DNP offers access to restricted data sources which provide conclusive matches. See the Public vs. Restricted section.

How do I gain access to SAM through DNP?
To initiate the DNP enrollment process, send an e-mail to donotpay@stls.frb.org or contact 1-855-837-4391.

Restricted vs. Public

Content provided in the DNP portal is classified as *Public* or *Restricted*. Eligibility to access *Public* and *Restricted* data sources in the DNP portal are subject to the DNP legal review of the agency routine use of the data.

Restricted
DNP considers a *Restricted* data source one that requires approved or controlled access and is <u>not</u> available to the general public.

Public
DNP considers a *Public* data source one that is available without controls or restrictions to the general public.

Did You Know?

Any payment processed through the Department of the Treasury gets matched against SAM Exclusion Records—Restricted.

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SAM Exclusion Types

Ineligible (Proceedings Pending)
Cause: Preliminary ineligible based upon adequate evidence of conduct indicating a lack of business honesty or integrity, or a lack of business integrity, or regulation, statute, executive order or other legal authority, pending completion of an investigation and/or legal proceedings; or based upon initiation of proceedings to determine final ineligibility based upon regulation, statute, executive order or other legal authority or a lack of business integrity or a preponderance of the evidence of any other cause of a serious and compelling nature that it affects present responsibility.

Ineligible (Proceedings Completed)
Cause: Determined ineligible upon completion of administrative proceedings establishing by preponderance of the evidence of a cause of a serious and compelling nature that it affects present responsibility; or determined ineligible based on other regulation, statute, executive order or legal authority.

Prohibition / Restriction
Cause: May be subject to sanctions pursuant to the conditions imposed by the U.S. Department of the Treasury: Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), or subject to a sanction, restriction or partial denial pursuant to the conditions imposed by the U.S. Department of State or federal agency of the U.S. Government.

Voluntary Exclusion
Cause: Accepted an agreement to be excluded under the terms of a settlement between the person and one or more agencies.

Exclusion Types categorize an exclusion available through SAM Exclusion Records based official proceedings or restrictions as outlined in SAM.gov. For further details on Exclusion Types, see the Important Links section.

Data Elements Returned in the DNP Portal

When a match occurs, the search criteria along with the corresponding SAM data elements will be returned through the search method utilized within the DNP Portal.

Data Element	SAM Exclusion Records		SAM Entity Registration
	Public	Restricted	
Payee Name / Legal Business Name	✔	✔	✔
Doing Business As (DBA) Name	✔	✔	✔
DUNS	✔	✔	✔
DUNS Plus 4			
TIN / EIN / SSN		✔	✔
Address	✔	✔	✔
City, State, Zip, Country Code	✔	✔	✔
CAGE Code		✔	✔
Business Start Date			✔
Primary NAICS Code			✔
Product Service Code (PSC)			✔
Federal Supply Code (FSC)			✔
Corporate URL			✔
Entity/Payee Contact Information *Phone, Fax, Email*	✔	✔	✔

Data Element	SAM Exclusion Records		SAM Entity Registration
	Public	Restricted	
Delinquent Federal Debt			✔
Disaster Response			✔
Agency Location Code	✔	✔	✔
Payee Type *(Business, Individual, or Government)*	✔	✔	
Match Type	✔	✔	
Match Level	✔	✔	
List Status Code	✔	✔	
List Status Code Description	✔	✔	
Match Effective Date	✔	✔	
SAM Number	✔	✔	
Exclusion Type	✔	✔	
Reporting Agency	✔	✔	
Agency Specific Identifier	✔	✔	✔

How To Fix Incorrect Data
DNP does not own the data that appears within SAM and is unable to update its content. Contact SAM for data inquiries or disputes.

SAM Federal Service Desk
1-866-606-8220
www.fsd.gov

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